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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/648,931

08/27/2003

Kenneth E. Flick

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01/30/2006

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EXAMINER

SWARTHOUT, BRENT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/648,931

Applicant(s)

FLICK, KENNETH E.

Examiner

Brent A. Swarthout

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 December 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-16 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-8,10,17-20,22,23,26-30 and 32 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,9,21,24,25 and 31 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1,4,7,8,10,17,20,22,23,26,29,30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang (407) in view of either Suman et al. or Nykerk, and further in view of Boreham et al.

Hwang teaches a prealarm warning system comprising prealarm sensor (port b, Fig. 1) for sensing low level security alert and prealarm emulator 102 for generating a signal on data communication line to alarm controller 103 to cause alert indicator 105 to generate a prealarm different than a full alarm (col. 1, line 65- col.2, line 15). Although Hwang does not specifically state that data communication line between emulator 102 and alarm controller 103 is a bus, such would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the vehicle security communication art, since a bus is a well-known type of communication line in vehicle security communication systems.

Furthermore, Suman teaches desirability of using data bus 111 for communicating data for indication of vehicle security (col. 9, line 10), whereby the data bus 111 interfaces with plural vehicle systems 101-110 throughout the vehicle, including a security system tamper sensor 105.

Also, Nykerk teaches desirability in a vehicle security system of interfacing security alarm sensing data to data bus 64 throughout vehicle

via processor 60, the data bus 64 also being connected to other vehicle systems (Fig.4).

Boreham further discloses desirability in a vehicle alarm system of using data bus with addressing to provide alarm data to activate a pre-alarm or loud alarm upon a sensed security condition (col. 3, lines 25-30; col.4, lines 43-48; col.6, lines 18-27).

It would have been obvious to connect a pre-alarm warning system as disclosed by Hwang over a vehicle data bus as suggested by Suman and Nykerk and to further use addressing over the data bus as suggested by Boreham, in order to take advantage of wiring already existing in a vehicle without having to add supplemental wiring to communicate sensed data in a vehicle alarm system, and to allow communication with specific vehicle systems which have individual addresses (col.5, line 17).

Regarding claim 4, since Hwang teaches activation of chirp for low level alerts, choosing to provide plural chirps would have been an obvious matter of engineering choice, based on whether plural versus a single alert was deemed most preferable by a user.

Regarding claim 7, Hwang teaches that sensor b also detects high security alarm conditions (col.2, lines 5-15).

Regarding claim 8, choosing to place system components in a housing would have been obvious in order to protect against tampering and environmental hazards.

Regarding claim 10, Hwang teaches use of motion sensor (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 17, a chirp as taught by Hwang is a typical indication of arm mode activation for vehicle remote controls.

Regarding claim 23, choosing to install pre-warn circuitry such as taught by Hwang in conjunction with already existing alarm circuitry would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the vehicle alarm art, in order to avoid the nuisance of continuous alerts due to non-threatening conditions.

3. Claims 5, 18 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang (407) in view of either Suman et al. or Nykerk, and further in view of Boreham et al. and Hwang (697).

Hwang (697) discloses desirability of making a pre-warn alert shorter than a high level alert (col. 2, lines 29-38). It would have been obvious to use a short pre-warn alert in conjunction with a system as disclosed by Hwang (407) and Suman or Nykerk, and Boreham in order to notify parties that a vehicle was alarmed while still minimizing nuisance alerts of long duration.

4. Claims 6, 19 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hwang (407) in view of either Suman et al. or Nykerk, and further in view of Boreham et al. and Issa et al.

Issa teaches desirability of using pre-warn alerts of lesser intensity than alarms for high levels of concern (col. 3, lines 19-35, 65-67).

It would have been obvious to use a lower volume alert for less hazardous conditions as suggested by Issa in conjunction with a system

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as disclosed by Hwang (407) and Suman or Nykerk, and Boreham in order to let a bystander know how serious an alert condition was.

5. Regarding remarks filed with the response on 12-7-05, on page 5 it is stated that there would be no need to send data over a bus since Hwang already has wiring. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to send pre-warn data over a bus which is standard in newer vehicles, so that separate wiring would not have to have been used, thus saving space and expense.

On page 5 it is further argued that Hwang and Suman do not teach addressing over a bus. However, Boreham teaches the well-known use of addressing over a databus so that a processor can communicate with different equipment in a vehicle. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include addressing capability with a pre-alarm bus system as suggested by Hwang and Suman, in order to allow targeted communication between system components.

6. Claims 2,3,9,21, 24-25 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 11-16 are allowed.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is

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filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brent A Swarthout whose telephone number is 571-272-2979. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 6:30 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Hofsass, can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

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system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Swarthout".

Brent A Swarthout
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**BRENT A. SWARTHOUT
PRIMARY EXAMINER**